

Tivoli-Union Brewery (Milwaukee Brewery)
1320-1348 Tenth St.
Denver
Denver County
Colorado

HAER No. CO-1

HAER
COLO,
16-DENV,
15-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD

CO-1

TIVOLI-UNION BREWERY

(MILWAUKEE BREWERY)

HAER
COLO,
16-DENV,
15-

Date: Circa 1890

Location: 1320-1348 10th Street Denver, Denver County, CO.

Designed by: Unknown

Owned by: Originally: Milwaukee Brewing Company
1901: Merger forms Tivoli-Union Brewing Co.
1965: Carl and Joseph Occhiato
Presently: Associates for the Redevelopment of
Tivoli

Significance: The Tivoli Brewing Company is one of the last gravity
fed breweries in the United States.

Transmitted by: Dan Clement, 1983

The history of the Tivoli Brewing Company spans more than 100 years and encompasses the development of three different breweries. James Good crossed the prairie in 1859 with the first wagonload of hops for Denver's initial brewery, the Rocky Mountain Brewing Company. In that same year Good became associated with the brewery's owner, Mr. Charles Endlich.

Good, known to have been a master brewer in Europe, ran the brewery during the 1860's. At that time, the brewery was located on the western shore of Cherry Creek in Auraria, a rival community adjoining Denver. Sometime during the middle of the decade Endlich died and Good became sole owner of the facility. In 1870, he changed the name of the brewery to the Tivoli Brewing Company (named after the Tivoli Gardens in Copenhagen).

In 1879 another brewery in Auraria started production. The Milwaukee Brewing Company located at 10th and Larimer was known not only for its beer but also for the construction in 1882 of Vorkwaert's Turn Hall. The hall was used to stage club shows and operas and proved to be quite popular with the people of Auraria. In 1890 the company constructed a new four story brick structure with tower and basement. This structure survives today as the most visually distinctive building within the complex. A shallow three story connector between the turn hall and the new building was also constructed in 1890, most likely while the new tower building was still under construction.

By 1901, the Tivoli Brewing Company had merged with the Union Brewing Company, owned by William Burghardt (a friend of James Good) and it occupied the site of the Milwaukee Brewing Co. on 10th street. About this time it is

believed that the buildings to the south and east of the tower building were constructed.

The Tivoli-Union Brewing Co. continued to operate (barring prohibition) under the ownership of Burghardt, Good and Good's heirs until 1964. With the death of Mrs. LoRaine Good Kent Vichy (a daughter-in-law of James Good) the ownership of the brewery remained in litigation until the complex was sold to Carl and Joseph Occhiato in 1965. Four years later the brewery ceased operation. After being considered as a possible student center for the new three college Auraria Campus, the brewery is today undergoing renovation for a different purpose. The existing buildings are to be united under a skylight-greenhouse creating a mixture of shops and exhibit spaces that will serve commercial interests within the local economy.

People wishing to learn more about Denver's early business history are referred to the following:

Letham J. Historical and Descriptive Review of Denver, Her Leading Business Houses and Enterprising Men, Denver 1893.

Smiley, Jerome C. History of Denver, The Times-Sun Publishing Co. Denver, 1901.

Brettell, Richard R. Historic Denver The Architects and The Architecture 1858-1893.